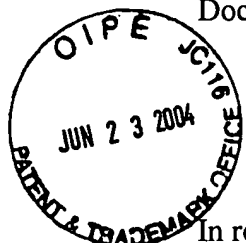


AF2172  
61



Docket No. 49986-0505 (RSID 1-351)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Hitoshi SEKINE, et al.

Application No. 09/782,988

Filed: February 13, 2001

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORING  
AND MANAGING DATA**

) Group Art Unit: 2172  
)  
) Examiner: Fred I. Ehichioya  
)  
)  
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**RECEIVED**

JUN 28 2004

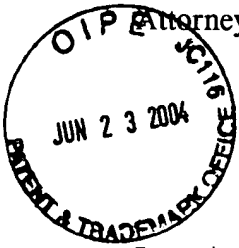
Technology Center 2100

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION WITHOUT AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This reply is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 5,  
2004.



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of ) Group Art Unit: 2172  
)  
Hitoshi SEKINE, et al. ) Examiner: Fred I. Ehichioya  
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Technology Center 2100

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Reply to Office Action Without Amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.  
☒ Return Receipt Postcard.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	28	31	0	\$18.00 =	\$0.00
Independent Claims	3	3	0	\$86.00 =	\$0.00
Multiple claims newly presented					\$0.00
Fee for extension of time					\$0.00
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$0.00

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP



Dated: June 21, 2004

Edward A. Becker  
Reg. No. 37,777

1600 Willow Street  
San Jose, CA 95125  
(408) 414-1080 ext. 204  
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop Amendment**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On June 21, 2004

By



Angelica Jaquez